

Item # 4

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My name is Elaine O'Day. I work for Travel Plaza Transportation LLC a subsidiary of JTB one of the largest Travel Agencies in the world. I am in opposition to this bill.

Everyday we pick up hundreds and sometimes thousands of visitors that come to our Islands with a smile on their face and money to spend in Paradise. They all come with the expectation that they will be shown the Aloha of our people.

I have been in the Tour Industry in Hawaii for more than 20 years and it has kept a roof over my head and food on my table for my family. Since Tourism is one of Hawaii's biggest economies it brings millions in revenues to the State coffers. This year alone TPT has hired more than twenty new employees and plans to add another twenty to service the needs. These are jobs for you, your family members and loved ones.

Bill 11 seeks to exclude the visitor from enjoying the beaches and parks as residents do. Any time a segment people are excluded from a place or an activity it opens the door for further discrimination.

It is amazing what we do to our number one resource. We charge them to land in Hawaii, we charge them to get to the Hotel in Hawaii, we require them to pay sales tax for infrastructure they may never use, and we even charge them to visit National Parks. But you know they cannot visit a beach as a group.....Hawaii and its beauty is our number one product, Bill 11 closes the door on our visitors experiencing and engaging in what true beauty is.....